

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Child Care Assistance Program a.k.a Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Program 332 Dry Creek Road / P.O. Box 56 Towaoc, Co. 81334 Phone # 970.565.2619

February 24, 2021

Ellen C. Wheatley OCC Director Administration for Children and Families 330 C Street SW Washington, DC 20201

Dr. Ellen C. Wheatley,

Below is the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plan to spend Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) funding to assist families and providers to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. It is as follows:

# **Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)**

Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide direct child care services, including child care subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus? If yes, describe.

> The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to provide direct child fare services to our Essential workers, whom reside within our service area by waiving co-payments for families that meet our income guidelines. For the Providers, UMUT CCDF Program wilt provide mini-grants to ensure the Health and Safety for support during this COVID-19 pandemic. Our program will also enhance our professional development system via Virtual and also to provide training and coaching to teachers/providers serving our Native children within our service area..

## Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

Does the Lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide resources, supplies and/or technical assistance to child care providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If yes, describe.

> The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to provide resources, supplies and/or technical assistance to our child care providers to support implementation of health and safety

- practices in the way of: hiring a CRRSA Assistant part-time to purchase and keep track of all necessary documents, receipts on behalf of the CR RSA grant.
- The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to utilize the UMUT CRRSA assistant to create brochures and update policies based on the CDC guidelines and to be given and trained to each child care provider and parent, as a support program while coping through COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to distribute care packages containing cleaning supplies to each child care provider during the COVID-19 pandemic

### Grants or assistance (other than Subsidies) to stabilize child care providers

Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the child care sector to help child care providers (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-10 public health emergency. If yes, describe.

- > The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to provide Mini-grants to child care providers to install washers, dryers, dishwashers, remove carpets (if needed), expand or add outdoor play space to allow social distancing.
- ➤ The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to support and assist child care providers to differentiate costs for groceries, heating bills, cleaning supplies and also assist with networking for school-aged children to attend online school due to COVID-19 pandemic. CCDF Program will work closely with the local Education Departments and Economic Development Department to ensure our child care providers receive necessary internet modems in their homes.

#### Assistance to Providers not participating in the Subsidy system prior to the Pandemic

- As required in CRRSA, how does the lead agency plan to use a portion of funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF eligible child care providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
  - > The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to recruit child care providers and parents by offering sanitary bags of cleaning supplies as an incentive for their participation to our program.
- The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe employees and local tribal entities are returning back to work soon and the CCDF Program will start working the Tribal Executive Director and the tribal employees in recruitment, so are all working parents have proper child care for their children at home. We are planning to waive eligibility, to ensure our families can meet our requirements.

#### Other

Does the lead agency plan to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds for an other activities or assistance not described above? If so, describe.

- ➤ The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to collaborate with our local Diabetes Program and Recreation Department for after-school program ideas and Spring Break fun week initiating social-distancing and COVID-19 education. We are planning to implement these activities during the Little Indians Club that focuses on Elementary school aged children.
- > The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to collaborate with our local Education Department and Tribal Social Services to have a Fun-Day to promote social-distancing and handwashing ideas during the summer months.

➤ The Ute Mountain Ute Tribal CCDF Program plans to collaborate with Child Development Center Daycare so we can assist the center to possibly upgrade a classroom and attempt to hire child care providers under the CRRSA program, so we can help assist and direct direct families and children to attend their local daycare center.

If you should have any questions, feel free to contact me at the phone numbers lis ed above.

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Sincerely,

/s/

Tina S Begay

**CCDF** Program Administrator

cc: Janet Feil, Region VIII Program Specialist